

Always Ready

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Online Staff

Maj. Gen. Gary Sayler Commanding General Maj. Chris Borders Public Affairs Officer Editor

FORT CARSON ARMY UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM UNIT CONDUCTS TRAINING AT ORCHARD **COMBAT TRAINING** CENTER

Photos and story by Idaho Army

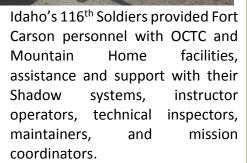
Personnel from the Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System Platoon of the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division of Fort Carson, Colorado, conducted joint training with the Idaho Army National Guard's 116th Brigade Combat Team March 6-19, 2016. This training, which took place in Idaho's Orchard Combat Training Center was a great experience for both units and validated the concept of active and reserve components being able to work together training to the same standards.

The 4th ID **TUAS** Soldiers greatly appreciated the Idaho facilities. describing the ample airspace and training

areas as well as Idaho Army National Guard range control support as a beacons of sunshine compared to the congested and smaller training areas they have seen at various Active Duty military installations.

They safely completed 16 flights with 42 hours of flight time during the seven available flying days after competing with Idaho's spring weather that included rain, snow, low cloud ceilings and high winds. When weather hampered their ability to fly their UAVs, the units

> maximized use of Idaho's Shadow crew trainer simulator and conducted academic training requirements on OCTC's flight



Both units trained in Shadow requirements using their enabled laser guidance capabilities by live-laser conducting remote Hellfire missile engagements with 1-183rd Idaho's Attack Reconnaissance Battalion.

The joint training opportunity between Idaho's 1/A/116th Brigade Troops Battalion Special TUAS/D/588th Brigade Engineer Battalion was a huge success with Idaho National Guard's training facilities and UAS operators earning accolades from the Fort Carson Soldiers.



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